Special Issue

Quaternary Forest Dynamics in Monsoon Asia

Message from the Guest Editors

Only 15% of monsoon Asia is nowadays covered by forests, with more area being occupied by forests in the Quaternary as estimated by reconstructed and potential natural vegetation. Although a lot of paleoecological studies have been done for revealing the spatiotemporal distribution and dynamics of Quaternary forests in Asia, the actual forest coverage and dynamics in different periods (as evidenced by glacials/interglacials, stadials/interstadials) as well as the Holocene period of the Quaternary remain to be determined. More well-dated and high-resolution proxy records of forests are needed to develop a detailed picture of Quaternary forests in Asia so that we can better understand natural and anthropogenic forces driving Quaternary forest dynamics and provide high spatial and temporal resolution land cover maps that are essential for precise simulations of paleovegetation and paleoclimates as well as predictions of future vegetation and climate. This Special Issue invites paleoecological studies, syntheses, and reviews on Quaternary forest dynamics in monsoon Asia.

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